

or gas-fueled stoves are permitted. (2) The use or sale of fireworks of all kinds. (3) Outdoor smoking except within an enclosed vehicle. Violations of Stage II fire restrictions in unincorporated El Paso County may result in a fine of up to \$1,000. Please report any suspected violations of the order by phoning 719-390-5555. For more information, visit www.epcsheriffsoffice.com.

VFW scholarship competitions

VFW's Voice of Democracy Scholarship competition gives local high school students a chance to compete for thousands of dollars in scholarships and a trip to Washington, D.C. Students must write and record a three-to-five-minute essay on the selected theme using an audio CD or flash drive and present their recording, typed essay, and completed entry form to their local VFW Post by **Oct. 31**. The 2020-21 theme is "Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?" Middle school students also have a scholarship competition, Patriot's Pen. This year's theme is "What Is Patriotism to Me?" For more information about both contests, visit www.vfw.org/VOD.

MVEA Scholarships

Each year, MVEA awards \$1,000 scholarships to 14 graduating high school seniors. Applications are due by **Jan. 18, 2021**. Apply online at www.mvea.coop/scholarships. For more information contact Erica Meyer, 719-494-2654, erica.m@mvea.coop. See ad on page 10.

National Night Out, Oct. 6

National Night Out, a national community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships, has traditionally been scheduled for the first Tuesday in August. This year it is delayed until **Oct. 6** due to COVID-19. Turn on your porch light and go outside to join your neighbors to make a show of solidarity and strength. Plan a block party, barbecue, neighborhood walk, or other activity. Register for free and receive information and suggestions at www.natw.org.

MVEA youth leadership trip

High school sophomores and juniors can win a summer trip. Apply at www.mvea.coop/essay-contest. Leadership trip availability may change due to COVID-19. For more information, contact Erica Meyer, 719-494-2654, erica.m@mvea.coop. See ad on page 10.

MVEA rebates

Mountain View Electric Association will reward you to switch to LED bulbs and from gas to electric powered out-

door equipment. Visit www.mvea.coop/rebates to learn more.

Monument Hill Frontage Road

Crews have closed a portion of the Monument Hill Frontage Road, east of mainline I-25, for about seven months. The 1,100-foot closure is required as crews construct a wild-life underpass, replace drainage pipes, complete roadway construction, and install a sound wall between northbound I-25 and the frontage road. The closure will be located between the Colorado Heights Campground access points. Access to and from the campground will not be disrupted. Wildlife underpasses will help reduce animal-vehicle collisions along the I-25 South Gap corridor, and the improved drainage will prevent flooding and soil erosion in this area. The sound wall will extend from Misty Acres Boulevard, just north of Palmer Ridge High School, to the Telios Law building on Monument Hill Frontage Road. For more information on this closure, visit www.codot.gov/projects/i25-south-gap-monument-hill-frontage-road-closure.

Free transportation and handyman services

Mountain Community Senior Services offers free transportation and handyman services to Tri-Lakes seniors. Private transportation to medical appointments or a grocery store is now provided by Envida, 719-633-4677. If you need grab bars in the bathroom, a ramp to your door, or repair of stairs or railings, please call Cindy Rush, 488-0076, and leave a message or visit www.coloradoseniorhelp.com.

Tri-Lakes Cares is there for you

Do you need help as a result of COVID-19? Connect with Tri-Lakes Cares for assistance with groceries, rent or mortgage, utilities, car repair, and medical assistance at www.tri-lakescares.org/coronavirus. For more information, call 719-481-4864.

Tri-Lakes Cares online auction

Due to COVID-19, there will be no Empty Bowls dinner this year. Monument Hill Kiwanis distributed pre-paid bowls in a drive-through **Oct. 3**, but this fundraising effort won't match the funds normally raised by the usual Empty Bowls event. So, Tri-Lakes Cares will hold an online auction **Oct. 3-10**. Register and view auction items on the website, tri-lakescares.org.

Tri-Lakes Cares needs us

Tri-Lakes Cares is the only food pantry and human services organization located in and serving northern El Paso County through emergency, self-sufficiency, and relief pro-

grams. The community-based, volunteer-supported center is a critical resource for our neighbors in need. The best way to help support Tri-Lakes Cares is to make a financial donation. For more information about Tri-Lakes Cares or how you can help, contact Brendan Rhoades, TLC's Community Engagement Manager: 719-481-4864, ext. 111; communityengagementmanager@tri-lakescares.org; or visit www.tri-lakescares.org.

Volunteer for Tri-Lakes Cares

There are many areas within Tri-Lakes Cares that you can help serve. Volunteers interact with clients, stock the food pantry, distribute grocery orders, process donations, pack Snack Packs for local youth, and contribute in many other ways to the success of Tri-Lakes Cares. Becoming a volunteer is easy and fun. For details, contact Volunteer Coordinator Nichole Pettigrew, 719-481-4864 x113, VolunteerCoordinator@Tri-LakesCares.org; or visit <https://tri-lakescares.org/volunteer/>.

COVID-19 pandemic resources

The county's website, www.elpasocountyhealth.org/community-resources-0, has lists to help with basic needs, behavioral health resources, businesses, childcare resources for children and teens, health and wellness resources, and volunteer opportunities (local and immediate needs).

Can you volunteer today?

Links to local organizations with an immediate need for volunteers are listed on the county's website, www.elpasocountyhealth.org/community-resources-0, for groups like Care and Share, Crossfire Ministries, Citizen's Project (email joy@citizensproject.org for virtual opportunities to help with Census 2020), blood donations, Early Connections (volunteer from home opportunity), foster an animal, Medical Reserve Corps of El Paso County, Salvation Army, Silver Key, and United Way (ongoing opportunities).

Senior Beat newsletter—subscribe for free

Each monthly *Senior Beat* newsletter is full of information for local seniors, including the daily menu of the senior lunches offered Monday through Friday at the Mountain Community Mennonite Church, 643 Highway 105, Palmer Lake. It also contains the schedule of the classes and events for the month at the Senior Citizens Center and senior-friendly library programs. To subscribe, send an email with your name and mailing address to SeniorBeat@TriLakesSeniors.org. *Senior Beat* can also be viewed online at www.TriLakesSeniors.org. ■

Our Community Calendar

By Judy Barnes,
Community Calendar Editor

Although we strive for accuracy in these listings, dates or times are often changed after publication. Please double-check the time and place of any event you wish to attend by calling the info number for that event.

The unpredictability of the COVID-19 situation presents scheduling challenges to area governance entities and other organizations. Because OCN is a monthly publication, readers should assume that information published in this issue is subject to change and event information should be confirmed a day or two before the event by calling the information number or checking the organization's website.

Many entries show dates even though the event has been canceled or suspended. The date indicates when the event was planned to be held or when it would normally have been held.

GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

- **Monument Board of Trustees Meeting, livestreamed at bit.ly/2uZxjfa**, Tue., **Oct. 5**, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Normally meets 1st and 3rd Mon. each month. The public can watch past town meetings on www.youtube.com/channel/UCdFL08UcqZfFdkio5jT6GDA/featured. Info: 719-884-8017, www.townofmonument.org.
- **El Paso Board of County Commissioners Meeting, live-streamed at www.elpasoco.com/news-information-channel**, Tue., **Oct. 6**, 9 a.m. Centennial Hall, 200 South Cascade Ave., Suite 150, Colo. Springs. Meets every Tue. only in October except for Oct. 22. Info: 719-520-6430, www.agendasuite.org/iip/elpaso/meeting/list.
- **Monument Academy School Board Meeting, Zoom meeting; email Board@monumentacademy.net and someone will respond with a meeting invitation. The audio will also be recorded and posted.** Thu., **Oct. 8**, 6 p.m., Lab 312, 1150 Village Ridge Point, Monument. Meets 2nd Thu. each month. Info: 719-481-1950, www.monumentacademy.net/school-board.
- **Palmer Lake Town Board of Trustees Meeting**, Thu., **Oct. 8**, 6 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Meets 2nd Thu. each month. Info: 719-481-2953, www.townofpalmerlake.com.
- **Woodmoor Water & Sanitation District Board Meeting**, Mon., **Oct. 12**, 1 p.m., 1845 Woodmoor Dr., Monument. Meets 2nd Mon. each month. Info: 719-488-2525, www.woodmoorwater.com.
- **Tri-Lakes Wastewater Facility Joint Use Committee Meeting**, Tue., **Oct. 13**, 10 a.m., 16510 Mitchell Ave. Meets 2nd Tue. each month. Info: Bill Burks, 719-481-4053.
- **D-38 Accountability Advisory Committee (DAAC) Meeting, live stream on the district's YouTube chan-**

- nel:** www.youtube.com/user/LPSDCommunity, Tue., **Oct. 13**, 7-8:30 p.m., 146 Jefferson St., Monument. Meets 2nd Tue. each month, location varies. Info: Cheri McLean, 719-785-4210, cmclean@lewispalmer.org, www.lewispalmer.org.
- **Palmer Lake Sanitation District Board Meeting, call in only, check the website;** Wed., **Oct. 14**, 9 a.m., 120 Middle Glenway. Meets 2nd Wed. each month. Info: 719-481-2732, www.plsd.org.
- **Monument Planning Commission Meeting, the public can watch town meetings on www.youtube.com/channel/UCdFL08UcqZfFdkio5jT6GDA/featured**, Wed., **Oct. 14**, 6 p.m. Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Meets 2nd Wed. each month. Public attendance will be limited to remote attendance. To see the options for remote public participation in each meeting, visit www.townofmonument.org/263/Planning-Commission-Board-of-Adjustment. Info: 719-884-8017, www.townofmonument.org.
- **El Paso County Planning Commission Meeting, live-streamed at www.elpasoco.com/news-information-channel**, Thu., **Oct. 15**, 1 p.m., 200 South Cascade Ave., Suite 150, Colo. Springs. Meets 1st & 3rd Thu. (if required) each month. Info: 719-520-6300, elpasoco.com/public-meetings/.
- **Donala Water & Sanitation District Board Meeting, check the website for the access code for the electronic meeting**, Thu., **Oct. 15**, 1:30 p.m., 15850 Holbein Dr. Meets 3rd Thu. each month. Info: 719-488-3603, www.donalawater.org.
- **Monument Board of Trustees Meeting, livestreamed at bit.ly/2uZxjfa**, Mon., **Oct. 19**, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Board Room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument. Meets 1st and 3rd Mon. each month. The public can watch past town meetings on www.youtube.com/channel/UCdFL08UcqZfFdkio5jT6GDA/featured. Info: 719-884-8017, www.townofmonument.org.
- **Wescott Fire Protection District Board Meeting, possible Zoom meeting, check the website**, Tue., **Oct. 20**, 4 p.m., Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Dr. Meets 3rd Tue. each month. Info: 719-488-8680, www.wescottfire.org.
- **Monument Sanitation District Board Meeting, check the website**, Wed., **Oct. 21**, public 2021 budget workshop 8 a.m., regular meeting 9 a.m., 130 2nd St. Meets 3rd Thu. each month. Info: 719-481-4886, www.colorado.gov/msd.
- **Academy Water and Sanitation District Board Meeting, the public can join the Skype meeting: <https://join.skype.com/PAcujKTn7Nrh>. Check the website for a link: <https://academywsd.colorado.gov/notices-and-alerts>**. Wed., **Oct. 21**, 6 p.m., Wescott Fire Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Dr. Meets 3rd Wed. each month. Info: 719-481-0711, <https://academywsd.colorado.gov>.
- **Black Forest Fire/Rescue Protection District Board**


- Meeting**, Wed., **Oct. 21**, 7 p.m., Station 1, 11445 Teachout Rd. Meets 3rd Wed. each month. Info: 719-495-4300, www.bffire.org.
- **Triview Metropolitan District Board Meeting/review of 2021 budget draft, check the website**, Thu., **Oct. 22**, 5:30 p.m., 16055 Old Forest Point, Suite 300, Monument. Now meets 3rd Thu. each month. Info: 719-488-6868, www.triviewmetro.com.
- **Palmer Lake Town Board of Trustees Meeting**, Thu., **Oct. 22**, 6 p.m., Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent. Meets 2nd & 4th Thu. each month. Info: 719-481-2953, www.townofpalmerlake.com.
- **Lewis-Palmer School District 38 Board Meeting, live stream on the district's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/user/LPSDCommunity**, Mon., **Oct. 26**, 6 p.m., Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. Normally meets 3rd Mon. each month. The agenda and supporting documents can be found at <https://go.boarddocs.com/co/lewispalmer/Board.nsf/vpublic>. Info: 719-481-9546, vwood@lewispalmer.org, www.lewispalmer.org.
- **Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District Board Meeting, contact Jennifer Martin for meeting information, 719-484-0911;** Wed., **Oct. 28**, 6:30 p.m., TLM-FPD Station 1, 18650 Hwy 105. Meets 4th Wed. each month. Info: Jennifer Martin, 719-484-0911, www.tlm-fire.org.
- **Woodmoor Improvement Association Board Meeting**, Wed., **Oct. 28**, 7 p.m., Woodmoor Barn, 1691

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